

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Yasushi KANEKO, et al.**

Serial No.: **08/981,654**

Group Art Unit: **2871**

Filed: **January 8, 1998**

Examiner: **Dung T. Nguyen**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8315

For: **LIQUID CRYSTAL SHUTTER AND METHOD OF DRIVING THE SAME**

Customer No. **38834**

Docket No. **971480**

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

June 10, 2004

Sir:

I, Mr. Yasushi Kaneko do hereby declare as follows:

- 1) I am an inventor of the invention described in claims 1 and 3 of the above-identified patent application.
- 2) I am an employee of Citizen Watch Co., Ltd., the assignee of this patent application, and I am a citizen of Japan.
- 3) I have reviewed the responses and the Office Actions in this application.
- 4) I have reviewed the Amstutz (USP 4,634,229) and Natsunaga (USP 5,548,423) references and am familiar with them.
- 5) Amstutz does not disclose a liquid crystal display that falls within the limitations set forth in claims 1 or 3 of the above-identified application.

Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132
In re: **Yasushi KANEKO**, et al.
U.S. Serial No. **08/981,654**

The undersigned declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under ' 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed this 18th day of June, 2004

Yasushi Kaneko
Yasushi Kaneko

Title: Manager
Citizen Watch Co., Ltd.

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 In re: Yasushi KANEKO, et al.
 U.S. Serial No. 08/981,654

EXHIBIT A

TABLE 1
 Comparison between Present Invention and Amstutz

	Φ	Ψ	P1	P2	γ	β	$\gamma + \beta$	Meets Claim 1 Limitations
Example of present invention	240	90	-45	+45	105	75	180	Yes
Modified Example of present invention	190	90	-45	+45	130	50	180	Yes
Example of Amstutz	270	60	75	15	60	30	90	No
Modified Example of Amstutz 1	270	90	0	90	45	45	90	No
Modified Example of Amstutz 2	240	60	15	75	45	45	90	No
Modified Example of Amstutz 3	190	10	-50	140	45	45	90	No
Modified Example of Amstutz 4	190	90	-90	0	85	5	90	No
Modified Example of Amstutz 5	190	90	0	90	-5	95	90	No

Φ : twisted angle

Ψ : crossed absorption axes angle of a pair of polarizing plates

P1: angle of intermediate liquid crystal molecules and an absorption axis of upper polarizing plate

P2: angle of intermediate liquid crystal molecules and an absorption axis of lower polarizing plate

β : angle of upper liquid crystal molecules and absorption axis of upper polarizing plate

γ : angle of lower liquid crystal molecules and absorption axis of lower polarizing plate

Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132
In re: Yasushi KANEKO, et al.
U.S. Serial No. 08/981,654

HOW TO CALCULATE DEGREE OF ANGLES

Present Invention (in a case of $\Phi = 190^\circ$): See FIG. A

1. Draw a horizontal axis (X axis) and a vertical axis (Y axis) on a paper. Draw axes of the upper orientation direction (upper LC) and lower orientation direction (lower LC) for a twisted angle ($\Phi = 190^\circ$) so as to have the vertical axis being in the direction of the intermediate liquid crystal molecules.
2. Draw an absorption axis of a polarizing plate. Here, the absorption axes of an upper polarizing plate (upper PL) and a lower polarizing plate (lower PL) are positioned to have 45° difference respectively relative to the direction of the intermediate liquid crystal molecules ($P1 = -45^\circ$, $P2 = 45^\circ$) and to be orthogonal to each other ($\Psi = 90^\circ$).
3. Measure angles (β) formed of the axis of the upper orientation direction (upper LC) and the absorption axes of the upper polarizing plates when it is viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction. Here, the absorption axis of the upper polarizing plate (upper PL) viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction (upper LC) forms an angle of 50° ($\beta = 50^\circ$) counterclockwise.
4. Measure angles (γ) formed of the axis of the lower orientation direction (lower LC) and the absorption axes of the lower polarizing plates when it is viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction. Here, the absorption axis of the lower polarizing plate (lower PL) viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction forms an angle of 130° ($\gamma = 130^\circ$) counterclockwise.

In other cases that angles satisfy $180^\circ < \Phi \leq 260^\circ$, e.g. a case of $\Phi = 240^\circ$ in Table 1, γ and β can be calculated in the same manner as above.

Amstutz (in a case of $\Phi = 190^\circ$): See FIG. B

1. Draw a horizontal axis (X axis) and a vertical axis (Y axis) on a paper. Draw axes of the upper orientation direction (upper LC) and lower orientation direction (lower LC) for a twisted angle ($\Phi=190^\circ$) so as to have the vertical axis being in the direction of an intermediate liquid crystal molecules.
2. In Amstutz, an angle (β) formed of the axis of the upper orientation direction (upper LC) and an absorption axis of an upper polarizing plate (upper PL) when viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction, and an angle (γ) formed of the axis of the lower orientation direction (lower LC) and an absorption axis of a lower polarizing plate

Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132

In re: Yasushi KANEKO, et al.

U.S. Serial No. 08/981,654

(lower PL) when viewed from the axis of the upper orientation direction, are defined as $\gamma + \beta = 90^\circ$ or 0° . Therefore, the absorption axis of the upper polarizing plate (upper PL) and the absorption axis of the lower polarizing plate (lower PL) are drawn with $\gamma = 45^\circ$ and $\beta = 45^\circ$ being adopted, for example.

3. Measure an angle (P1) formed when the absorption axis of the upper polarizing plate (upper PL) is viewed from the direction of intermediate liquid crystal molecules. In this case, $P1 = -50^\circ$. Similarly, read an angle (P2) formed when the absorption axis of the lower polarizing plate (lower PL) is viewed from the direction of the intermediate liquid crystal molecules. In this case, $P2 = 140^\circ$.

4. Measure an angle (Ψ) formed of the absorption axis of the upper polarizing plate (upper PL) and the absorption axis of the lower polarizing plate (lower PL). In this case, $\Psi = 10^\circ$. $\Psi = |P1 - P2| = |-50 - 140| = 190^\circ = 180^\circ + 10^\circ = 10^\circ$.

In case of $\gamma = 85^\circ$, $\beta = 5^\circ$ or $\gamma = -5^\circ$, $\beta = 95^\circ$, Ψ will be 90° , and P1 and P2 are 0° or $\pm 90^\circ$. It means it is difficult to make the present invention condition ($\Psi = 90^\circ$, $P1 = \pm 40^\circ \sim \pm 50^\circ$, $P2 = \pm 40^\circ \sim \pm 50^\circ$) from Amstutz condition ($\gamma + \beta = 90^\circ$).

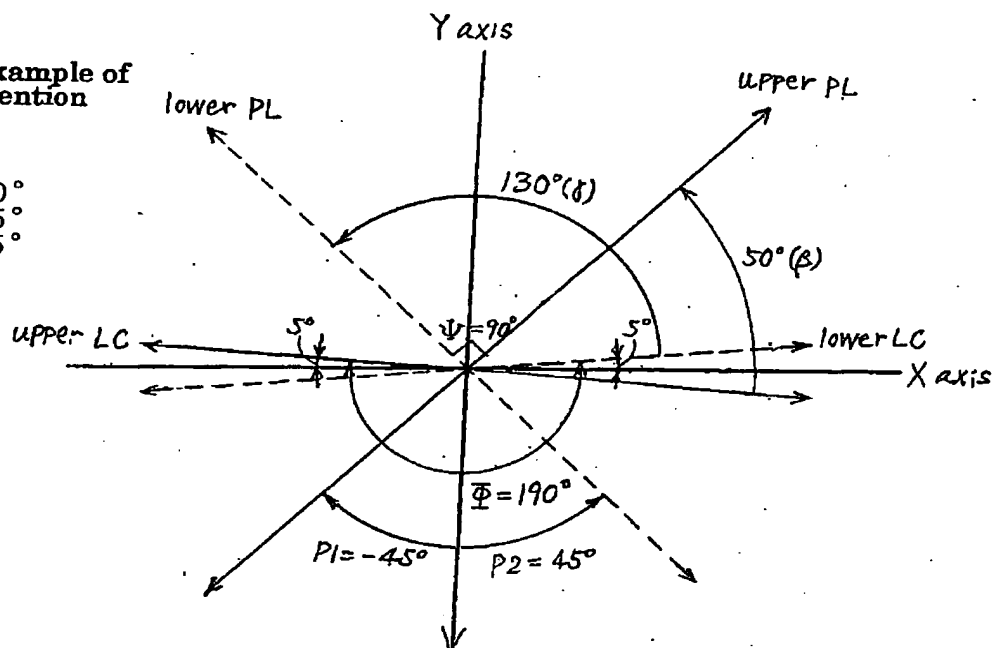
In other cases that angles satisfy $180^\circ < \Phi \leq 360^\circ$, e.g. cases of $\Phi = 240^\circ$ and $\Phi = 270^\circ$ in Table 1, P1, P2, and Ψ can be calculated in the same manner as above.

4/4

FIG. A

Modified Example of
Present invention
condition

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi &= 190^\circ \\ P1 &= 45^\circ \\ P2 &= 45^\circ\end{aligned}$$



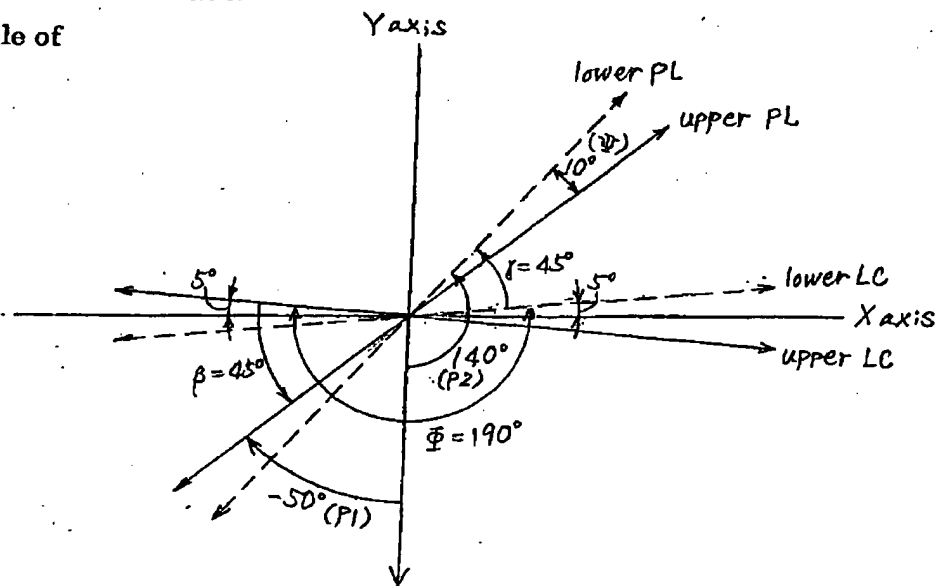
A direction in which intermediate
liquid crystal molecules are oriented.

FIG. B

Modified Example of
Amstutz 3

condition

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi &= 190^\circ \\ \gamma &= 45^\circ \\ \beta &= 45^\circ\end{aligned}$$



A direction in which intermediate
liquid crystal molecules are oriented